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UPPER SETTLEMENT
(of Midway)

Summer of

1859--Jeremiah Robey, Sidney Hyrum Epperson, Mark Smith, David Wood, Jesse McCarrell, and Edwin Bronson planted a crop of grain on Snake Creek," said Emily Coleman in 1952.

Settled in 1860 by: Peter Shirts(Schurtz), John Hanks, Ephriam Knowlton Hanks, and Mr Riggs, as they built their log cabins along upper Snake Creek.

This area was later called Mound City, because of the many limestone (potrock) mounds in this area; caused by warm springs of water welling up and carrying lime deposits from deep in the earth to the surface and depositing them layer after layer untill they formed mounds of limestone.

Several areas were eventually mined and this potrock was used for building material for home walls, fences, graineries and even dugouts.

To keep families organized together in a new raw land and to establish the religious community they so desired; a presiding elder was appointed by the region presiding elder to look after political, judicial, military and religious affairs.

The first Presiding Elder of the Upper Settlement or Mound City was Sidney Hyrum Epperson with John Fausett and Samuel Thompson as his counselors, *appointed by Provo River Valley Presiding Bishop; Joseph Stacy Murdock.*

This settlement continued to grow and thrive till the Indian Troubles began to threaten the very lives of these early pioneers in 1865 and 1866. These settlers had no external protection from frequent raids of the Shoshone or Ute Indian raiding parties on cattle, sheep, or people.

So the region Presiding Elder, Joseph Stacy Murdock⁴ suggested that the Upper and Lower Settlements combine their efforts to build a wooden cabin fort about half way between each settlement. This was done, and called Midway. By summer of 1866 about 75 families had built cabins and a meeting house at the present site of Midway Town Square for their protection and leaving their respective settlements.

- REF-1. "Under Wasatch Skies" pp 19-23
2. "Sidney Epperson, Pioneer" by Simon Epperson, Heber, Utah, 1927 p.20
3. Emily Coleman, 1952 by Letha Tatge
4. "Joseph Stacy Murdock"